

*****June 14, 2021*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting on Monday, June 14, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Charles Poss
Vice Mayor Susannah Murdock
Councilmember Andrew Gardner
Councilmember Dan Landrum

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White
Special Proj. & Compliance Manager Sam Guin

Mayor Poss led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Minutes

The minutes for the May 10, 2021 regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

The minutes for the May 10, 2021 budget meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Poss asked if there were any requests to address the Council.

There being no requests, the meeting proceeded.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE HUMANE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE CONTROL OF ANIMALS, FOR A PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022, FOR \$825.00 MONTHLY."

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Murdock seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the resolution was approved.

2. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH JOHNSON, MURPHY & WRIGHT, P.C. TO AUDIT TOWN ACCOUNTS FROM JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021, AND TO PROVIDE PAYMENT FOR MUNICIPAL AUDITING SERVICES PERFORMED ON TOWN

ACCOUNTS FOR THAT TIME PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS AND NO/100 (\$27,220.00).”

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Murdock seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the resolution was approved.

Ordinances

1. “AN ORDINANCE TO TEMPORARILY CONTINUE THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022.”

Town Manager, Boyd Veal, reminded the Council that this action is necessitated by the fact that the pending county-wide property tax re-appraisal and salary survey will result in relevant and important information, which is not yet available, to complete the FY 2021-22 budget.

Councilmember Landrum made a motion to approve the first reading of the Ordinance. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the first reading of the ordinance was approved.

Discussion

- b. Municipal Landscape Ordinance. Mayor Poss said he still needs to speak with the Tree Board members. He asked that this discussion be delayed and placed on the next agenda.
- c. Rainbow Lake Charrette. Mr. Veal informed the Council that the Town is working with a new Staff Planner at the Development District. He asked the Council to get survey questions to him in the next couple of days.
- a. 2021-2022 Budget. Council spent considerable time discussing the Federal Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund as established under the American Rescue Plan Act. During this discussion, Mr. Veal informed the Council that he has reviewed the recently released 151-page Interim Final Rule guidelines. He explained that there are three allowed uses of these funds that the Town can utilize. These uses are for (1) water utility and (2) stormwater infrastructure, and for (3) employee premium pay compensation for Covid-19 exposure risks.

Mr. Veal proposed utilizing approximately 1/3 of the Town’s eligible funds for premium pay for employees. Mr. Veal presented a few different options on how to designate pay rates for those employees most affected by COVID. Council asked for additional information and investigation by Town staff on this issue.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal said that he continues to work with Burris, Thompson & Associates regarding the salary study.

Mr. Veal said he has recently attended meetings with the WWTa, 9-1-1 Board, and other various Committee meetings.

Mr. Veal said he discovered that the past organizers of the July 4th parade have re-located. However, the new owner of the business wants to continue the tradition and will be organizing a parade for July 5th to coincide with the Lion's Club BBQ.

Sam Guin, Special Proj. & Compliance Manager, updated the Council with information about using an Administrative Law Judge through the State of Tennessee. Mr. Guin reported that it is a \$200.00 filing fee for the first 2 hours and \$100.00 per hour thereafter. Mr. Guin explained that the Town is required by the State to hire an Administrative Hearing Officer so using an Administrative Law Judge can only be a temporary measure. Mayor Poss asked that the Resolution for selecting an Administrative Hearing Officer be placed back on the agenda for Council action.

Mr. Veal said that the e-mail server went down again this weekend and is on its last leg. He said that staff is looking at cloud-based e-mail programs and will bring information back to the Council at a future meeting.

Other Business

a. **Communications from the Mayor/Council.**

Councilmember Gardner said he attended a recent Recreation Board Meeting. He said the improvement project at the Marion/Driver fields is scheduled for completion in mid-July. Councilmember Gardener said he has received a lot of compliments for the new pool deck.

Councilmember Landrum said he attended a DRC meeting. He said there are ongoing discussions about murals on the sides of buildings. He said the Town Manager got a copy of the Murfreesboro Code on this issue.

Vice Mayor Susanna Murdock announced that the MACC will have a grand re-opening on June 26th.

b. **Reports from Committees or Boards.** None

c. **Other.** None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Poss', written over a horizontal line.

Charles Poss, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a long horizontal stroke, written over a horizontal line.

Recorder